

competition, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 104-23).

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. Res. 24. A resolution providing for the broadcasting of press briefings on the floor prior to the Senate's daily convening.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. BURNS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. HATCH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KYL, Mr. MACK, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 647. A bill to amend section 6 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 to require phasing-in of certain amendments of or revisions to land and resource management plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. BENNETT, and Mr. FAIRCLOTH):

S. 648. A bill to clarify treatment of certain claims and defenses against an insured depository institution under receivership by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SIMON (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MACK, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. PELL, Mr. INOUE, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. ROBB, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. WELLSTONE):

S. 649. A bill to authorize the establishment of the National African American Museum within the Smithsonian Institution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SHELBY (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. BOND, Mr. GRAMM, and Mr. DOLE):

S. 650. A bill to increase the amount of credit available to fuel local, regional, and national economic growth by reducing the regulatory burden imposed upon financial institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 651. A bill to establish the Office of the Inspector General within the General Accounting Office, modify the procedure for congressional work requests for the General Accounting Office, establish a Peer Review Committee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PRESSLER:

S. 652. A bill to provide for a pro-competitive, de-regulatory national policy framework designed to accelerate rapidly private sector deployment of advanced telecommunications and information technologies and services to all Americans by opening all telecommunications markets to competition, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 653. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for

employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel AURA; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

S. 654. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel SUNRISE; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

S. 655. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel MARANTHA; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

S. 656. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel QUIETLY; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself and Mr. ROBB):

S. Res. 97. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to peace and stability in the South China Sea; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. BURNS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. HATCH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KYL, Mr. MACK, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 647. A bill to amend section 6 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 to require phasing-in of certain amendments of or revisions to land and resource management plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

#### TIMBER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, it is time to require the U.S. Forest Service to act in a responsible manner when amending its forest management plans and prior to revising its land and resource management plans.

It is unfortunate that it is necessary to legislate this requirement, but past performance such as red cockaded woodpecker in the South and the spotted owl in the Northwest has made this necessary.

Today is a special day. Six years ago is when the U.S. Forest Service unilaterally implemented arbitrary changes to forest management plans in the southern region and ignored one of its missions by reducing timber harvesting. And for 6 years elected officials have worked to reestablish responsible management.

I am reintroducing my resolution which was adopted in the last Congress. However, this time my legislation will formally amend the National Forest Management Act of 1976.

In 10 words or less my bill will: "require the Forest Service to phase-in

forest management plan changes." That is all.

This legislation will not prevent the Forest Service, or any other Federal agency, from taking actions to protect endangered species.

This legislation will not change one environmental statute.

This legislation will not gut any environmental policies.

This legislation will not jeopardize any efforts to protect endangered species.

In fact, I would argue it will cause a greater public acceptance, awareness, and respect for environmental policies.

This legislation merely dictates common sense to ensure a balanced and economically responsible plan is established.

Let me be very clear, if my colleagues have a national forest in their State, then they have a potential problem.

Previous forest management policy changes have failed to anticipate societal consequences on communities and families. Severe economic devastation occurred.

I am not talking about hypothetical situations. Talk to the people in timber communities in Oregon, Washington, and Liberty County, FL. This is real and this is not smart.

In the last Congress, I saw a number of legislative provisions adopted to help communities already destroyed by changes in how forests are managed. These legislative solutions were expensive and necessary. It is an unfortunate thing that they were required, but let members not perpetuate this reactive legislative mode.

This legislative goal is to avoid having to enact expensive remedies after the fact. Congress needs to get in front of the problems caused by the Forest Service.

The legislation I am introducing here today has a goal of avoiding having to enact expensive remedies after the fact. Congress needs to get in front of the problems caused by the Forest Service.

This legislation involves an uncomplicated inexpensive four criteria phase-in process. In fact, it was examined by the Department of Agriculture when it was a resolution last year. All of its concerns were incorporated in the language that was accepted in the last day of the session.

This legislation is straightforward.

This legislation ensures that common sense and economic issues are factored into policies which change forest management plans.

This legislation will preclude devastating economic impacts from public policies by suddenly reducing annual timber harvests. This produces significant job losses and financial ruin. It damages schools. In small communities it has unbelievable consequences quite often when it is just put into effect without proper consideration.